

Application No.: 10/071,083  
Attorney Docket No. 1817-0120P  
Office Action dated September 8, 2003  
Response filed October 8, 2003  
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### **REMARKS**

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-16 are currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his election of species requirement in view of the remarks as set forth hereinbelow.

### **ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

The Examiner has set forth an election of species requirement with regard to the present application. The grouping of the claims is set forth as follows:

SPECIES	FIGURES	CLAIMS
I	1-3	1-6 and 16
II	4 and 5	1, 2, 7-11 and 16
III	6	1, 2, 12-14 and 16
IV	7	1, 2 and 16
V	8	1, 2, 15 and 16

In order to be responsive to the Examiner's election of species requirement, Applicants have elected the species of Group I for initial examination. Applicants hereby elect claims 1-6 and 16 for initial examination. The Examiner is respectfully requested to act on the elected claims.

The provisions of 37 CFR 1.146 state that a reasonable number of species are permitted in a single application. The present application contains five species. At this time, claims 1, 2 and 16 are generic to the species. Thus, once claims 1, 2 or 16 are in condition for allowance, it is respectfully submitted that a reasonable number of species is set forth in the present application and should be in condition for allowance.

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In order to be responsive to the Examiner's election of species requirement, claims 1-6 and 16 have been initially elected. If the Examiner does persist in his election of species requirement, Applicants reserve the right to proceed with the filing of divisional applications directed to non-elected species at a later date if they so desire.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT

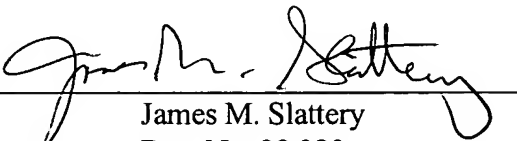
The Examiner has not acknowledged the Priority Document that was filed on April 10, 2002. The Examiner should acknowledge the Priority Document in the next Office Action.

Favorable action on the present application is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any fees or credit any overpayment pursuant to 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

Respectfully submitted,

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By   
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